To: andrew lingenfelter@heller.senate.gov[andrew lingenfelter@heller.senate.gov]; Ashley Jonkey (ashley_jonkey@heller.senate.gov)[ashley_jonkey@heller.senate.gov]; jack_finn@heller.senate.gov[jack_finn@heller.senate.gov]; (jeremy_harrell@heller.senate.gov)[jeremy_harrell@heller.senate.gov]; Sarah Paul (sarah_paul@heller.senate.gov)[sarah_paul@heller.senate.gov]; Stephen Sifuentes (Stephen_sifuentes@heller.senate.gov)[Stephen_sifuentes@heller.senate.gov]; alexander_mcdonough@reid.senate.gov[alexander_mcdonough@reid.senate.gov]; jason unger@reid.senate.gov[jason unger@reid.senate.gov]; kristen_orthman@reid.senate.gov[kristen_orthman@reid.senate.gov]; lucas_ingvoldstad@reid.senate.gov[lucas_ingvoldstad@reid.senate.gov]; mary conelly@reid.senate.gov[mary conelly@reid.senate.gov]; ryan_mulvenon@reid.senate.gov[ryan_mulvenon@reid.senate.gov]; sara_moffat@reid.senate.gov[sara_moffat@reid.senate.gov]; Shannon Raborn (shannon_raborn@reid.senate.gov)[shannon_raborn@reid.senate.gov]; yolanda_garciabanuelos@reid.senate.gov[yolanda_garcia-banuelos@reid.senate.gov]; Jacob Fullmer (jacob.fullmer@mail.house.gov)[jacob.fullmer@mail.house.gov]; Kent Alexander (Kent.Alexander@mail.house.gov)[Kent.Alexander@mail.house.gov]; Kyle Lykins (kyle.lykins@mail.house.gov)[kyle.lykins@mail.house.gov]; Robert Yavor (robert.yavor@mail.house.gov)[robert.yavor@mail.house.gov]; Sonia Joya (sonia.joya@mail.house.gov)[sonia.joya@mail.house.gov] Cc: Calvino, Maria Soledad[Calvino.Maria@epa.gov]; PerezSullivan,

Margot[PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov]; Maier, Brent[Maier.Brent@epa.gov]; Keener,

Bill[Keener.Bill@epa.gov] **From:** Higuchi, Dean

Sent: Thur 5/12/2016 8:50:07 PM

Subject: EPA News Release - EPA Selects Nye County, Nev., for Environmental Job Training Grant

This will be issued today, any questions please contact me or Brent Maier (back in the office Monday)

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2016

Media Contact: Margot Pere-Sullivan, 415-947-4149, PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov

EPA Selects Nye County, Nev., for Environmental Job Training Grant

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that Nye County, Nev., will receive a \$200,000 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) grant to provide environmental training to unemployed and economically-disadvantaged local residents. In total, 18 grantees were selected nationally to receive approximately \$3.5 million in funding.

U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator Mathy Stanislaus announced the selection of the grant recipients at the Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training session for the Los Angeles Conservation Corps in Los Angeles, Calif.

With this year's funds, Nye County will provide Pahrump residents with training opportunities to work in environmental fields including work related to hazardous materials handling; identification, assessment, clean up, and remediation of contamination; and health and safety. Nye County will work in partnership with their five neighboring counties, several County departments, the Pahrump Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development. Graduates of Nye County's training program will interview with several firms for employment opportunities.

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"EWDJT grants transform lives by providing individuals the opportunity to gain meaningful long-term employment and a livable wage in the growing environmental field," said Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management. "Individuals completing training have often overcome a variety of barriers to employment."

The programs benefit local residents impacted by brownfield sites in their communities by helping to provide opportunities to secure work and build careers cleaning up these sites. Grantees work in areas historically affected by unemployment, blight, economic disinvestment, and solid and hazardous waste sites. The EWDJT program provides communities the flexibility to deliver training that meets specific labor market demands in in fields such as: brownfields assessment and cleanup, waste treatment and stormwater management, emergency response, electronics recycling, solar installation and green remediation.

EWDJT grants are awarded to a broad range of communities with multiple indicators of need, including communities affected by natural disasters or the closure of manufacturing facilities, Economic Development Administration "Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership" designated communities (http://www.eda.gov/challenges/imcp), and Housing and Urban Development/Department of Transportation/EPA "Partnership for Sustainable Communities" designated communities (http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov). Past graduates of the EWDJT program have worked on response and cleanup activities associated with the 2010 BP oil spill along the Gulf Coast, the World Trade Center, and Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Sandy.

Graduates develop a broad set of skills that improves their ability to secure meaningful full-time employment. Since the inception of the EWDJT grant program in 1998, more than 256 grants have been awarded exceeding \$54 million. Approximately 14,700 individuals have completed training, and of those, more than 10,600 individuals have been placed in full-time employment

with an average starting hourly wage of \$14.34. This equates to a cumulative job placement rate of nearly 72 percent of graduates.

In addition to LACC, the other 17 grantees are:

- City of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, Calif.
- Cypress Mandela Training Center, Inc., Oakland, Calif.
- Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Hunters Point Family, San Francisco, Calif.
- Civic Works, Inc., Baltimore, Md.
- City of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y.
- Limitless Vistas, Inc., New Orleans, La.
- Energy Coordinating Agency, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Redevelopment Authority of Cumberland County, Carlisle, Pa.
- Auberle, McKeesport, Pa.
- Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Waterbury, Conn.
- City of Tacoma, Tacoma, Wash.
- City of Glens Falls, Glens Falls, N.Y.
- City of Springfield, Springfield, Mo.
- Lawson State Community College, Birmingham, Ala.
- · Alaska Forum, Inc., Anchorage, Alaska
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Kingston, Wash.

For more information on EWDJT grantees, including past EWDJT grantees, please visit:

https://cfpub.epa.gov/bf factsheets/

For more information on EPA's EWDJT program, please visit:

https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding

To learn more about the EWDJT program, visit Assistant Administrator Mathy Stanislaus' blog at: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/developing-green-job-opportunities-in-brownfields-impacted-communities/

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Thanks!

Dean Higuchi

Press Officer/Congressional Liaison/Public Affairs

US EPA, Region 9, Hawaii Office

higuchi.dean@epa.gov

808-541-2711